

IN THE TITLE

Please amend the title to read as follows:

HEARING AID WITH AUTOMATIC EXCESSIVE OUTPUT SOUND CONTROL

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following new paragraphs at page 7, line 10:

One or more objects of the invention may be achieved in whole or in part by a hearing aid with automatic excessive output sound control. The hearing aid has an amplifier for amplifying an input signal from an input transducer, a rectifying circuit for rectifying an output signal of the amplifier, a smoothing capacitor for smoothing direct current rectified by the rectifying circuit, an attenuation circuit for attenuating the level of the output signal of the amplifier when a DC voltage smoothed by the smoothing capacitor exceeds a certain fixed level, and a charging circuit for charging the smoothing capacitor when power turns on. The attenuation circuit has a first transistor that turns on and draws the input signal of the amplifier when the DC voltage smoothed by the smoothing capacitor exceeds the certain fixed level. The hearing aid may further include a second transistor, having the same characteristics as the first transistor, to add bias to the base of said first transistor. Also, the rectifying circuit may have a plurality of diodes and carry out a voltage doubler rectification.

One or more objects of the invention may also be achieved in whole or in part by an alternative hearing aid with automatic excessive output sound control. This hearing aid has an amplifier for amplifying an input signal from an input transducer, a rectifying circuit for rectifying an output signal of the amplifier, a smoothing capacitor for smoothing direct current rectified by the rectifying circuit, and an attenuation circuit for attenuating the level of the output signal of the amplifier when DC voltage smoothed by the smoothing capacitor exceeds a certain fixed level. The attenuation circuit includes a variable resistance and a first transistor. The variable resistance determines a signal suppression amount applied to the input stage of the

amplifier, and the first transistor turns on and draws the input signal of the amplifier when the DC voltage smoothened by the smoothing capacitor exceeds the certain fixed level. The hearing aid may further include a charging circuit for charging the smoothing capacitor when power turns on. The hearing aid may also include a second transistor, having the same characteristics as the first transistor, to add bias to the base of the first transistor. Also, the rectifying circuit may have a plurality of diodes and carry out a voltage doubler rectification.